

SPLIT STRONGLY ABELIAN p -CHIEF FACTORS AND FIRST DEGREE RESTRICTED COHOMOLOGY

JÖRG FELDVOSS, SALVATORE SICILIANO, AND THOMAS WEIGEL

ABSTRACT. In this paper we investigate the relation between the multiplicities of split strongly abelian p -chief factors of finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebras and first degree restricted cohomology. As an application we obtain a characterization of solvable restricted Lie algebras in terms of the multiplicities of split strongly abelian p -chief factors. Moreover, we derive some results in the representation theory of restricted Lie algebras related to the principal block and the projective cover of the trivial irreducible module of a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra. In particular, we obtain a characterization of finite-dimensional solvable restricted Lie algebras in terms of the second Loewy layer of the projective cover of the trivial irreducible module. The analogues of these results are well known in the modular representation theory of finite groups.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let p be an arbitrary prime number, and let G be a finite group whose order is divisible by p . Moreover, let $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ denote the group algebra of G over the field \mathbb{F}_p with p elements, and let S be an irreducible (unital left) $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ -module. Then $[G : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ denotes the number of p -elementary abelian chief factors or for short p -chief factors G_j/G_{j-1} ($1 \leq j \leq n$) of a given chief series $\{1\} = G_0 \subset G_1 \subset \dots \subset G_n = G$ that are isomorphic to S as $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ -modules and for which the exact sequence $\{1\} \rightarrow G_j/G_{j-1} \rightarrow G/G_{j-1} \rightarrow G/G_j \rightarrow \{1\}$ splits in the category of groups. It is well known that $[G : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ is independent of the choice of the chief series of G (see also Theorem 1.2 below).

W. Gaschütz proved the “only if”-part of the following result on split (or complementable) p -chief factors of finite p -solvable groups (see [9, Theorem VII.15.5]). The converse of Gaschütz’ theorem is due to U. Stammbach [13, Corollary 1]), but in an equivalent form it was already proved earlier by W. Willems [15, Theorem 3.9].

Theorem 1.1. *A finite group G is p -solvable if, and only if, $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} H^1(G, S) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p[G]}(S) \cdot [G : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ holds for every irreducible $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ -module S .*

Let $C_G(M) := \{g \in G \mid g \cdot m = m \text{ for every } m \in M\}$ denote the *centralizer* of an $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ -module M in G . In order to be able to apply his cohomological characterization of p -solvable groups (see [12, Theorem A]) in the proof of Theorem 1.1, Stammbach established the following result (see the main result of [13]):

Date: January 21, 2013.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 17B05, 17B30, 17B50, 17B55, 17B56.

Key words and phrases. Solvable restricted Lie algebra, irreducible module, p -chief factor, strongly abelian p -chief factor, split p -chief factor, multiplicity of a split strongly abelian p -chief factor, restricted cohomology, transgression, principal block, projective indecomposable module, Loewy layer.

Theorem 1.2. *Let G be a finite group, and let S be an irreducible $\mathbb{F}_p[G]$ -module with centralizer algebra $\mathbb{D} := \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p[G]}(S)$. Then*

$$[G : S]_{p\text{-split}} = \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H^1(G, S) - \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H^1(G/C_G(S), S)$$

holds. In particular, $[G : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ is independent of the choice of the chief series of G .

The goal of this paper is to investigate whether analogues of Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2 hold in the context of restricted Lie algebras. Recently, the authors have obtained analogues of these results for ordinary Lie algebras (see the equivalence (i) \iff (iii) in [6, Theorem 4.3] and [6, Theorem 2.1], respectively). The main result of this paper is a restricted analogue of Theorem 1.2 (see Theorem 2.3) from which all the other results will follow. The proof given here follows the argument used in the proof of [6, Theorem 2.1] very closely. An important tool in the proof is a one-to-one correspondence between the set of equivalence classes of restricted extensions of a strongly abelian restricted Lie algebra M by a restricted Lie algebra L acting on M and the second restricted cohomology space $H_*^2(L, M)$ that is defined via the transgression in the five-term exact sequence associated to the restricted extension of M by L .

As a consequence of Theorem 2.3 and the equivalence (i) \iff (iv) in [6, Theorem 5.5], we obtain the analogue of Theorem 1.1 for split strongly abelian p -chief factors of restricted Lie algebras (see Theorem 2.7). In the final section we apply the results obtained in Section 2 to the second Loewy layer of the projective cover of the trivial irreducible module. The equivalence (i) \iff (ii) in Theorem 3.3 is an analogue of Willems' module-theoretic characterization of p -solvable groups (see [15, Theorem 3.9] and also [13, Corollary 2]) for restricted Lie algebras.

Let $\langle X \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}$ denote the \mathbb{F} -subspace of a vector space V over a field \mathbb{F} spanned by a subset X of V . For more notation and some well-known results from the structure and representation theory of restricted Lie algebras we refer the reader to Chapters 2 and 5 in [14].

2. SPLIT STRONGLY ABELIAN p -CHIEF FACTORS AND RESTRICTED COHOMOLOGY

In analogy to group theory we define a p -chief series for a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra L to be an ascending chain $0 = L_0 \subset L_1 \subset \cdots \subset L_n = L$ of p -ideals in L such that L_j/L_{j-1} is a minimal (non-zero) p -ideal of L/L_{j-1} for every integer j with $1 \leq j \leq n$. Any L_j/L_{j-1} is then called a p -chief factor of L . We say that L_j/L_{j-1} is a *strongly abelian p -chief factor* if it is an abelian Lie algebra with zero p -mapping (see [8, p. 565] for the notion of a strongly abelian restricted Lie algebra).

Observe that strongly abelian p -chief factors are irreducible restricted modules but this is not the case for arbitrary p -chief factors. Let S be a simple Lie algebra that is not restrictable, and let L be the minimal p -envelope of S . Then L has no non-zero proper p -ideals (see [5, Proposition 1.4(1)]), and therefore L is a p -chief factor of L which is not irreducible as an L -module, because S is a non-zero proper L -submodule of L (see [5, Proposition 1.1(1)]). Note also that every p -chief factor of a solvable restricted Lie algebra is abelian but not necessarily strongly abelian as any non-zero torus shows.

For an irreducible L -module S and a given p -chief series $0 = L_0 \subset L_1 \subset \cdots \subset L_n = L$ of L we denote by $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ the number of strongly abelian p -chief

factors L_j/L_{j-1} that are isomorphic to S as an L -module and for which the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow L_j/L_{j-1} \rightarrow L/L_{j-1} \rightarrow L/L_j \rightarrow 0$ splits in the category of restricted Lie algebras. Since we will show in Theorem 2.3 that $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ is independent of the choice of the p -chief series, we will not indicate the p -chief series in the notation.

Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic, and let $u(L)$ denote the restricted universal enveloping algebra of L (see [10, p. 192] or [14, p. 90]). Then every restricted L -module is an $u(L)$ -module and vice versa, and so there is a bijection between the irreducible restricted L -modules and the irreducible $u(L)$ -modules. In particular, as $u(L)$ is finite-dimensional (see [10, Theorem 12, p. 191] or [14, Theorem 2.5.1(2)]), every irreducible restricted L -module is finite-dimensional. Following Hochschild [8] we define the *restricted cohomology* of L with coefficients in a restricted L -module M by $H_*^n(L, M) := \mathrm{Ext}_{u(L)}^n(\mathbb{F}, M)$ for every non-negative integer n .

In [8, Section 3], Hochschild discusses restricted extensions of a strongly abelian restricted Lie algebra M by a restricted Lie algebra L with a fixed action of L on M . In particular, he shows in [8, Theorem 3.3] that the *set of equivalence classes of restricted extensions of M by L* , which he denotes by $\mathrm{ext}_*(M, L)$, is a vector space canonically isomorphic to $H_*^2(L, M)$. In the following we indicate how to derive part of this result in a different way by using the transgression $d_2^\mathcal{E}$ in the five-term exact sequence

$$(1) \quad 0 \rightarrow H_*^1(L, M) \rightarrow H_*^1(E, M) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_L(M, M) \xrightarrow{d_2^\mathcal{E}} H_*^2(L, M) \rightarrow H_*^2(E, M)$$

associated to any restricted extension $\mathcal{E} : 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ of M by L . It is clear from the naturality of (1) that $d_2^\mathcal{E}$ only depends on the equivalence class $[\mathcal{E}]$ of the restricted extension E . Hence one can define a map $\Delta : \mathrm{ext}_*(M, L) \rightarrow H_*^2(L, M)$ by $\Delta([\mathcal{E}]) := d_2^\mathcal{E}(\mathrm{id}_M)$. As for ordinary Lie algebras one has the following result (see [7, Theorem VII.3.3]):

Lemma 2.1. *Let L be a restricted Lie algebra, and let M be a strongly abelian restricted Lie algebra over a field of prime characteristic p . Furthermore, assume that M is a restricted L -module. Then $\Delta : \mathrm{ext}_*(M, L) \rightarrow H_*^2(L, M)$ is a bijection. Moreover, the equivalence class of a restricted extension of M by L is mapped to zero if, and only if, its representatives are split.*

Proof. As we will not need the surjectivity in this paper, we only prove the injectivity of Δ and that restricted extensions are mapped to zero if, and only if, they are split. For more details we refer the reader to the proofs of the analogous results for groups (see [7, Section VI.10]).

Let $\mathcal{F} : 0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow F \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ of L be any free presentation of the restricted Lie algebra L , and let $\mathcal{E} : 0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow E \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ be any restricted extension of M by L . Then there exist restricted Lie algebra homomorphisms $\varphi : F \rightarrow E$ and $\rho : R \rightarrow M$ such that the diagram

$$(2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & R & \longrightarrow & F & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \rho & & \downarrow \varphi & & \parallel & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

commutes.

Moreover, ρ induces an L -module homomorphism $\psi : \overline{R} \rightarrow M$, where $\overline{R} := R/[R, R] + \langle R^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}$. Observe that ψ is surjective if, and only if, φ is surjective.

The commutativity of the diagram (2) in conjunction with the naturality of the five-term exact sequence yields that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} H_*^1(E, M) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_L(M, M) & \xrightarrow{d_2^E} & H_*^2(L, M) & \longrightarrow & H_*^2(E, M) \\ \downarrow \varphi^* & & \downarrow \psi^* & & \parallel & & \downarrow \\ H_*^1(F, M) & \xrightarrow{\tau} & \text{Hom}_L(\overline{R}, M) & \xrightarrow{d_2^F} & H_*^2(L, M) & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

is commutative as well. In particular, we obtain that

$$(3) \quad \Delta([\mathcal{E}]) = d_2^E(\text{id}_M) = d_2^F(\psi^*(\text{id}_M)) = d_2^F(\psi).$$

We are ready to prove the injectivity of Δ . Let $\mathcal{E}_1 : 0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\iota_1} E_1 \xrightarrow{\pi_1} L \rightarrow 0$ and $\mathcal{E}_2 : 0 \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\iota_2} E_2 \xrightarrow{\pi_2} L \rightarrow 0$ be two restricted extensions of M by L , and suppose that $\Delta([\mathcal{E}_1]) = \Delta([\mathcal{E}_2])$. Let $F := F(E_1 \oplus E_2)$ denote the free restricted Lie algebra generated by the underlying vector space of $E_1 \oplus E_2$. Consider the free presentation $\mathcal{F} : 0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow F \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0$ of the restricted Lie algebra L . Then the restricted Lie algebra homomorphisms $\varphi_j : F \rightarrow E_j$ ($j = 1, 2$) are surjective, and the L -module homomorphisms $\psi_j : \overline{R} \rightarrow M$ induced by ρ_j ($j = 1, 2$) are surjective as well.

It follows from $\Delta([\mathcal{E}_1]) = \Delta([\mathcal{E}_2])$ and (3) that $\psi_1 - \psi_2 \in \text{Ker}(d_2^F)$. Thus there exists a restricted derivation $D : F \rightarrow M$ such that $\psi_1 - \psi_2 = \tau(D)$. Put

$$\varphi'_2 := \varphi_2 + \iota_2 \circ D.$$

It is easily seen that $\varphi'_2 : F \rightarrow E_2$ is a restricted Lie algebra homomorphism. Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & R & \longrightarrow & F & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \rho'_2 & & \downarrow \varphi'_2 & & \parallel & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & E_2 & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

If $\psi'_2 : \overline{R} \rightarrow M$ denotes the map induced by ρ'_2 on \overline{R} , then it is clear that $\psi'_2 = \psi_2 + \tau(D) = \psi_1$. In particular, ψ'_2 is surjective, and, in turn, so is φ'_2 . Moreover, as $\psi_1 = \psi'_2$, we have $\rho_1 = \rho'_2$, which implies that $\text{Ker}(\varphi_1) = \text{Ker}(\varphi'_2)$. Consequently, $E_1 \cong F/\text{Ker}(\varphi_1) = F/\text{Ker}(\varphi'_2) \cong E_2$. Consider the map $\eta : E_2 \rightarrow E_1$ defined by $\varphi'_2(f) \mapsto \varphi_1(f)$ for every $f \in F$. Then η is a restricted Lie algebra homomorphism making the following diagram commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathcal{E}_1 : 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\iota_2} & E_2 & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & L & \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow \eta & & \parallel & \\ \mathcal{E}_2 : 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{\iota_1} & E_1 & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & L & \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

We conclude that $[\mathcal{E}_1] = [\mathcal{E}_2]$, which finishes the proof of the injectivity of Δ .

Finally, let us prove that Δ maps split restricted extensions to zero. Because of the injectivity of Δ , split restricted extensions are the only ones that are mapped to zero. Without loss of generality we can assume that E is the semi-direct product $M \rtimes L$ of M and L . Recall that the p -mapping on E is defined by $(m, x)^{[p]} := (x^{p-1} \cdot m, x^{[p]})$ for every $m \in M$ and every $x \in L$ (see [8, p. 572]). We have to show that $d_2^E(\text{id}_M) = 0$, or by the exactness of the corresponding five-term sequence, that there exists a restricted derivation D from E to M such that the restriction of D

to M is the identity. It is straightforward to check that $D(m, x) := m$ for every $m \in M$ and every $x \in L$ defines such a restricted derivation. \square

We are ready to prove a restricted analogue of [1, Lemma 2] which will be essential in the proof of our main result (see Theorem 2.3).

Lemma 2.2. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field of prime characteristic p , let I be a minimal p -ideal of L that is strongly abelian, and let \mathcal{E} denote the equivalence class of the restricted extension $0 \rightarrow I \rightarrow L \rightarrow L/I \rightarrow 0$. Then the following statements hold:*

- (a) *If \mathcal{E} splits, then the transgression $d_2^{\mathcal{E}} : \text{Hom}_L(I, I) \rightarrow H_*^2(L/I, I)$ is zero.*
- (b) *If \mathcal{E} does not split, then the transgression $d_2^{\mathcal{E}} : \text{Hom}_L(I, I) \rightarrow H_*^2(L/I, I)$ is injective.*

Proof. (a): It follows from Lemma 2.1 that $d_2^{\mathcal{E}}(\text{id}_I) = 0$. As $d_2^{\mathcal{E}}$ is compatible with the action of $\mathbb{D} := \text{Hom}_L(I, I)$, this implies that $d_2^{\mathcal{E}} = 0$.

(b): By virtue of the \mathbb{D} -linearity of $d_2^{\mathcal{E}}$, it is enough to show that $\text{Ker}(d_2^{\mathcal{E}}) = 0$. According to Lemma 2.1, $d_2^{\mathcal{E}}(\text{id}_I) \neq 0$. Then the claim follows from

$$\dim_{\mathbb{D}} \text{Ker}(d_2^{\mathcal{E}}) + \dim_{\mathbb{D}} \text{Im}(d_2^{\mathcal{E}}) = \dim_{\mathbb{D}} \text{Hom}_L(I, I) = 1.$$

\square

Remark. If one ignores in the proofs of Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2 the compatibility of the homomorphisms with the p -mappings, then one obtains conceptual proofs of [1, Lemma 1 and 2], respectively.

A restricted Lie algebra L over \mathbb{F} is called p -perfect if $L = [L, L] + \langle L^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}$. By virtue of [3, Proposition 2.7], L is p -perfect if, and only if, $H_*^1(L, \mathbb{F}) = 0$. Our main result is completely analogous to the main result of [13] (see also [6, Theorem 2.1] for the analogue for ordinary Lie algebras):

Theorem 2.3. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field of prime characteristic p , and let S be an irreducible L -module with centralizer algebra $\mathbb{D} := \text{End}_L(S)$. Then*

$$(4) \quad [L : S]_{p\text{-split}} = \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L, S) - \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L / \text{Ann}_L(S), S)$$

holds. In particular, $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ is independent of the choice of the p -chief series of L .

Proof. We proceed by induction on the dimension of L . If L is one-dimensional, then L is either a torus or strongly abelian. For a torus both sides of (4) vanish and in the strongly abelian case the only irreducible restricted L -module is trivial so that both sides of (4) are also equal. Thus we may assume that the dimension of L is greater than one, and that the claim holds for all restricted Lie algebras of dimension less than $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} L$. Let $0 = L_0 \subset L_1 \subset \dots \subset L_n = L$ be a p -chief series of L . For the remainder of the proof the multiplicity $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ always refers to this fixed p -chief series.

If $\text{Ann}_L(S) = 0$, then the right-hand side of (4) is zero. But as strongly abelian p -chief factors have non-zero annihilators, the left-hand side also vanishes and the assertion holds. So we may assume that $\text{Ann}_L(S) \neq 0$.

We first assume that $L_1 \subseteq \text{Ann}_L(S)$. Then the five-term exact sequence for restricted cohomology in conjunction with [3, Proposition 2.7] yields the exactness of

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\longrightarrow H_*^1(L/L_1, S) \longrightarrow H_*^1(L, S) \\ &\longrightarrow \text{Hom}_L(L_1/[L_1, L_1] + \langle L_1^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}, S) \longrightarrow H_*^2(L/L_1, S). \end{aligned}$$

Since S is also an irreducible restricted L/L_1 -module, one obtains by induction that

$$(6) \quad [L/L_1 : S]_{p\text{-split}} = \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/L_1, S) - \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/\text{Ann}_L(S), S).$$

As L_1 is a minimal p -ideal of L , L_1 is either p -perfect or strongly abelian. In the former case, the third term in (5) vanishes, and thus $H_*^1(L/L_1, S) \cong H_*^1(L, S)$. Since L_1 is not strongly abelian, one has $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}} = [L/L_1 : S]_{p\text{-split}}$. Hence (4) holds in this case.

If L_1 is strongly abelian, one has $\text{Hom}_L(L_1/[L_1, L_1] + \langle L_1^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}, S) = \text{Hom}_L(L_1, S)$. If in addition L_1 and S are not isomorphic as L -modules, then $\text{Hom}_L(L_1, S) = 0$, and the assertion follows as before.

For $L_1 \cong S$ one has to distinguish two cases depending on the strongly abelian p -chief factor L_1 being split, or being not split. In case that L_1 is split, one has

$$(7) \quad \begin{aligned} [L : S]_{p\text{-split}} &= [L/L_1 : S]_{p\text{-split}} + 1 \\ &= \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/L_1, S) - \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/\text{Ann}_L(S), S) + 1, \end{aligned}$$

and Lemma 2.2(a) shows that the transgression $\text{Hom}_L(L_1, S) \rightarrow H_*^2(L/L_1, S)$ is zero. Thus the exactness of (5) implies that the restriction $H_*^1(L, S) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_L(L_1, S)$ is surjective, and therefore

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L, S) &= \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/L_1, S) + \dim_{\mathbb{D}} \text{Hom}_L(L_1, S) \\ &= \dim_{\mathbb{D}} H_*^1(L/L_1, S) + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (7) and (8) yield the assertion. Suppose now that L_1 is not split. In this case Lemma 2.2(b) implies that the transgression $\text{Hom}_L(L_1, S) \rightarrow H_*^2(L/L_1, S)$ is injective. According to (5), the inflation $H_*^1(L/L_1, S) \rightarrow H_*^1(L, S)$ is bijective. Then one has $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}} = [L/L_1 : S]_{p\text{-split}}$, and the claim follows from (6).

Finally, assume that $L_1 \not\subseteq \text{Ann}_L(S)$, i.e., $L_1 \cap \text{Ann}_L(S) = 0$ and $S^{L_1} = 0$. Suppose that L_j/L_{j-1} is strongly abelian and $L_j/L_{j-1} \cong S$ as L -modules for some integer j with $1 \leq j \leq n$. Then L_j – and thus L_1 – would be contained in $\text{Ann}_L(S)$, a contradiction. Hence $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}} = 0$. As $S^{L_1} = 0$, one concludes from the beginning of the five-term exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow H_*^1(L/L_1, S^{L_1}) \longrightarrow H_*^1(L, S) \longrightarrow H_*^1(L_1, S)^L \longrightarrow H_*^2(L/L_1, S^{L_1})$$

that the vertical mappings in the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_*^1(L/\text{Ann}_L(S), S) & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & H_*^1(L, S) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ H_*^1(L_1 + \text{Ann}_L(S)/\text{Ann}_L(S), S)^L & \xrightarrow{\beta} & H_*^1(L_1, S)^L \end{array}$$

are isomorphisms. Because β is an isomorphism, α is an isomorphism as well. This shows that in this case the right-hand side of (4) is also zero.

Since the right-hand side of (4) does not depend on the choice of the p -chief series, the left-hand side does not either. This completes the proof of the theorem. \square

In the extreme case $\text{Ann}_L(S) = L$, Theorem 2.3 in conjunction with [3, Proposition 2.7] has the following consequence:

Corollary 2.4. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic p . Then the trivial irreducible L -module occurs with multiplicity $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} L/[L, L] + \langle L^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}$ as a split strongly abelian p -chief factor of L .*

Moreover, the next result follows from Hochschild's six-term exact sequence relating ordinary and restricted cohomology (see [8, p. 575]) in conjunction with Corollary 2.4 and [6, Corollary 2.2]. (Here $[L : S]_{\text{split}}$ denotes the multiplicity of S as a split abelian chief factor of the ordinary Lie algebra L .)

Corollary 2.5. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic p . If S is an irreducible restricted L -module, then*

$$\begin{aligned} [L : S]_{p-\text{split}} \\ = \begin{cases} [L : S]_{\text{split}} & \text{if } S \not\cong \mathbb{F} \\ [L : S]_{\text{split}} - \dim_{\mathbb{F}} (\langle L^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}} / [L, L] \cap \langle L^{[p]} \rangle_{\mathbb{F}}) & \text{if } S \cong \mathbb{F} \end{cases}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $[L : S]_{p-\text{split}} \leq [L : S]_{\text{split}}$.

The equality of $[L : S]_{p-\text{split}}$ and $[L : S]_{\text{split}}$ for non-trivial irreducible restricted L -modules S explains why the results in Section 5 of [6] could be obtained although their ingredients belong to different categories.

Recall that the *principal block* of a restricted Lie algebra is the block that contains the trivial irreducible module. For the convenience of the reader we include a proof of the following result which is completely analogous to the corresponding proof for modular group algebras (see [12, Proposition 1]).

Proposition 2.6. *Every strongly abelian p -chief factor of a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra L belongs to the principal block of L .*

Proof. Let $S = I/J$ be a strongly abelian p -chief factor of L . In particular, S is a trivial I -module. Then the five-term exact sequence for restricted cohomology in conjunction with [3, Proposition 2.7] yields the exactness of

$$0 \longrightarrow H_*^1(L/I, S) \longrightarrow H_*^1(L/J, S) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_L(S, S) \longrightarrow H_*^2(L/I, S).$$

Since the third term is non-zero, the second or fourth term must also be non-zero. According to [4, Lemma 1(a)], in either case S belongs to the principal block of a restricted Lie factor algebra of L . Then it follows from [4, Lemma 4] that S also belongs to the principal block of L . \square

The analogue of Theorem 1.1 for restricted Lie algebras is another consequence of Theorem 2.3 in conjunction with the equivalence (i) \iff (iv) in [6, Theorem 5.5].

Theorem 2.7. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic p . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) L is solvable.
- (ii) $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [L : S]_{p-\text{split}}$ holds for every irreducible L -module S .
- (iii) $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [L : S]_{p-\text{split}}$ holds for every irreducible L -module S belonging to the principal block of L .

Proof. The equivalence of (i) and (ii) is a consequence of Theorem 2.3 and the equivalence (i) \iff (iv) in [6, Theorem 5.5], and the equivalence of (ii) and (iii) follows from [4, Lemma 1(a)] in conjunction with Proposition 2.6. \square

Remark. It is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.3 that $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [L : S]_{\text{p-split}}$ holds for the trivial irreducible L -module S . Hence one can also obtain Theorem 2.7 immediately from Corollary 2.5 and the equivalence of (i), (vi), and (vii) in [6, Theorem 5.5]. We included the proof given above since it is the precise analogue of the proof of [13, Corollary 1].

3. SPLIT STRONGLY ABELIAN p -CHIEF FACTORS AND THE 0-PIM

Let A be a finite-dimensional (unital) associative algebra with Jacobson radical $\text{Jac}(A)$, and let M be a (unital left) A -module. Then the descending filtration

$$M \supset \text{Jac}(A)M \supset \text{Jac}(A)^2M \supset \text{Jac}(A)^3M \supset \cdots \supset \text{Jac}(A)^\ell M \supset \text{Jac}(A)^{\ell+1}M = 0$$

is called the *Loewy series* of M and the factor module $\text{Jac}(A)^{n-1}M / \text{Jac}(A)^nM$ is called the n^{th} *Loewy layer* of M (see [2, Definition 1.2.1] or [9, Definition VII.10.10a])).

Recall that a projective module $P_A(M)$ is a *projective cover* of M , if there exists an A -module epimorphism π_M from $P_A(M)$ onto M such that the kernel of π_M is contained in the radical $\text{Jac}(A)P_A(M)$ of $P_A(M)$. If projective covers exist, then they are unique up to isomorphism. It is well known that projective covers of finite-dimensional modules over finite-dimensional associative algebras exist and are again finite-dimensional. Moreover, every projective indecomposable A -module is isomorphic to the projective cover of some irreducible A -module. In this way one obtains a bijection between the isomorphism classes of the projective indecomposable A -modules and the isomorphism classes of the irreducible A -modules.

In the sequel we use the notation $P_L(\mathbb{F}) := P_{u(L)}(\mathbb{F})$ for the projective cover of the trivial irreducible module of a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra L over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic. Using [2, Proposition 2.4.3] and Theorem 2.3 we obtain a lower bound for the multiplicity $[\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F}) / \text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S]$ of an irreducible restricted L -module S in the second Loewy layer of $P_L(\mathbb{F})$ (see [15, Theorem 3.7] for the analogue in the modular representation theory of finite groups):

Theorem 3.1. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic p . Then*

$$[\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F}) / \text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] \geq [L : S]_{\text{p-split}}$$

for every irreducible restricted L -module S .

Proof. We obtain from [2, Proposition 2.4.3] and Theorem 2.3 that

$$\begin{aligned} \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F}) / \text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] \\ &= \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{Ext}_{u(L)}^1(\mathbb{F}, S) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S) \\ &\geq \dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S) - \dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L / \text{Ann}_L(S), S) \\ &= \dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [L : S]_{\text{p-split}}. \end{aligned}$$

Cancelling $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S)$ yields the desired inequality. \square

Remark. If one uses the main result of [13] instead of Theorem 2.3, then the above proof would also work in the case of finite-dimensional modular group algebras. This provides an alternative proof of [15, Theorem 3.7].

The following example shows that equality does not necessarily hold in Theorem 3.1. We will see soon that equality holds if, and only if, the restricted Lie algebra is solvable (see the equivalence (i) \iff (ii) in Theorem 3.3).

Example. Consider the three-dimensional restricted simple Lie algebra $L := \mathfrak{sl}_2(\mathbb{F})$ over an algebraically closed field \mathbb{F} of characteristic $p > 2$. Take for S the $(p-1)$ -dimensional irreducible restricted L -module. Then it follows from [11, Theorem 1(ii)] that $[\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F})/\text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] = 2$, but $[L : S]_{p\text{-split}} = 0$.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 3.1, we obtain the following weak analogue of a well-known result for finite modular group algebras:

Corollary 3.2. *Every split strongly abelian p -chief factor of a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra L is a direct summand of the second Loewy layer of the projective cover $P_L(\mathbb{F})$ of the trivial irreducible L -module. In particular, every split strongly abelian p -chief factor of a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra L is a composition factor of $P_L(\mathbb{F})$.*

Question. In view of Corollary 3.2, it is natural to ask whether every strongly abelian p -chief factor of a finite-dimensional solvable restricted Lie algebra L is a composition factor of $P_L(\mathbb{F})$, or even more generally (see Proposition 2.6), whether every irreducible module in the principal block of $u(L)$ is a composition factor of $P_L(\mathbb{F})$ (for an affirmative answer to the analogous question in the modular representation theory of finite p -solvable groups see [9, Theorem VII.15.8]).

Finally, we obtain the following characterization of solvable restricted Lie algebras which was motivated by [6, Theorem 5.5] but contrary to the latter allows to include the trivial irreducible module in the implications (i) \implies (ii) and (i) \implies (iii) (see [15, Theorem 3.9] for the analogue of (i) \iff (ii) in the modular representation theory of finite groups).

Theorem 3.3. *Let L be a finite-dimensional restricted Lie algebra over a field \mathbb{F} of prime characteristic p . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) L is solvable.
- (ii) $[\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F})/\text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] = [L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ for every irreducible restricted L -module S .
- (iii) $[\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F})/\text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] = [L : S]_{p\text{-split}}$ for every irreducible restricted L -module S belonging to the principal block of L .

Proof. The equivalence of the three statements is a consequence of Theorem 2.7 in conjunction with

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}} \text{End}_L(S) \cdot [\text{Jac}(u(L))P_L(\mathbb{F})/\text{Jac}(u(L))^2P_L(\mathbb{F}) : S] = \dim_{\mathbb{F}} H_*^1(L, S).$$

□

Remark. It follows from the proof of Theorem 3.1 that the equality in statements (ii) and (iii) of Theorem 3.3 holds for the trivial irreducible L -module. Hence one

can also obtain Theorem 3.3 from Corollary 2.5 and the equivalence of (i), (viii), and (ix) in [6, Theorem 5.5].

Acknowledgements. The first and the second author would like to thank the Dipartimento di Matematica e Applicazioni at the Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca for the hospitality during their visit in May 2012 when parts of this paper were written.

REFERENCES

- [1] D. W. Barnes: First cohomology groups of soluble Lie algebras, *J. Algebra* **46** (1977), no. 1, 292–297.
- [2] D. J. Benson: *Representations and Cohomology I: Basic Representation Theory of Finite Groups and Associative Algebras*, Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics, vol. **30**, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1991.
- [3] J. Feldvoss: On the cohomology of restricted Lie algebras, *Comm. Algebra* **19** (1991), no. 10, 2865–2906.
- [4] J. Feldvoss: On the block structure of supersolvable restricted Lie algebras, *J. Algebra* **183** (1996), no. 2, 396–419.
- [5] J. Feldvoss: On the cohomology of modular Lie algebras, in: *Lie Algebras, Vertex Operator Algebras and Their Applications, Raleigh, NC, 2005* (eds. Y.-Z. Huang and K. C. Misra), Contemp. Math., vol. **442**, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 2007, pp. 89–113.
- [6] J. Feldvoss, S. Siciliano, and T. Weigel: Split abelian chief factors and first degree cohomology for Lie algebras, arXiv:1206.3669 (12 pages), accepted for publication in *J. Algebra*.
- [7] P. J. Hilton and U. Stammbach: *A Course in Homological Algebra* (Second edition), Graduate Texts in Mathematics, vol. **4**, Springer-Verlag, New York/Berlin/Heidelberg, 1997.
- [8] G. Hochschild: Cohomology of restricted Lie algebras, *Amer. J. Math.* **76** (1954), no. 3, 555–580.
- [9] B. Huppert and N. Blackburn: *Finite Groups II*, Grundlehren der Mathematischen Wissenschaften, vol. **242**, Springer-Verlag, Berlin/Heidelberg/New York, 1982.
- [10] N. Jacobson: *Lie Algebras*, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, 1979 (unabridged and corrected republication of the original edition from 1962).
- [11] R. D. Pollack: Restricted Lie algebras of bounded type, *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* **74** (1968), no. 2, 326–331.
- [12] U. Stammbach: Cohomological characterisations of finite solvable and nilpotent groups, *J. Pure Appl. Algebra* **11** (1977/78), no. 1–3, 293–301.
- [13] U. Stammbach: Split chief factors and cohomology, *J. Pure Appl. Algebra* **44** (1987), no. 1–3, 349–352.
- [14] H. Strade and R. Farnsteiner: *Modular Lie Algebras and Their Representations*, Monographs and Textbooks in Pure and Applied Mathematics, vol. **116**, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York/Basel, 1988.
- [15] W. Willems: On p -chief factors of finite groups, *Comm. Algebra* **13** (1985), no. 11, 2433–2447.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA, MOBILE, AL 36688–0002, USA

E-mail address: jfeldvoss@southalabama.edu

DIPARTIMENTO DI MATEMATICA E FISICA “ENNIO DE GIORGİ”, UNIVERSITÀ DEL SALENTO, VIA PROVINCIALE LECCE-ARNESANO, I-73100 LECCE, ITALY

E-mail address: salvatore.siciliano@unisalento.it

DIPARTIMENTO DI MATEMATICA E APPLICAZIONI, UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA, VIA ROBERTO COZZI, NO. 53, I-20125 MILANO, ITALY

E-mail address: thomas.weigel@unimib.it